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Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
17-25 February 2015

Draft report

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II. Maintenance of international peace and security

C. Consideration of the further revised working paper submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela entitled "Open-ended working group to study the proper implementation of the Charter of the United Nations with respect to the functional relationship of its organs"

1. The further revised working paper entitled "Open-ended working group to study the proper implementation of the Charter of the United Nations with respect to the functional relationship of its organs", submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela at the 2011 session of the Special Committee (see A/66/33, annex), was referred to during the general exchange of views held at the 276th and 277th meetings of the Special Committee, on 17 and 18 February 2015, and was considered at the 1st meeting of the Working Group of the Whole.

2. In their general comments, several delegations reiterated their concern that the Security Council had encroached on the functions and powers of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council by addressing issues that fell within the competence of those organs. Some emphasized that there was a need to establish the right balance of functions and powers among each principal organ of the United Nations. Reference was again made to paragraph 153 of the 2005 World Summit outcome document (Assembly resolution 60/1) and to paragraph 35 of the declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels (Assembly resolution 67/1), in which the importance of continuing efforts to reform the Security Council was stressed.

3. Some delegations expressed support for the proposal and maintained that the Special Committee was the proper forum in which to consider it.

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4. The view was reiterated that the responsibilities of the principal organs of the United Nations were adequately defined in the Charter and that the proposal was duplicative of other efforts aimed at revitalizing the Organization.

5. The sponsor delegation requested that the working paper should be retained in the work programme of the Special Committee. It announced that it would continue to hold bilateral discussions on the proposal and welcomed suggestions to further improve the working paper.